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UNITED NATIONS

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17 May 1957
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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA
Seventh session
La Paz, Bolivia
17 May 1957

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE SIXTY-SIXTH MEETING

Held at La Paz on Friday, 17 May, 1957 at 3.35 p.m.

CONTENTS:

General debate (continued)

PRESENT:

Chairman:	Mr. MORENO CORDOVA	Bolivia
Rapporteur:	Mr. OLIVEIRA CAMPOS	Brazil
Members:	Mr. SOLA	Argentina
	Mr. HINOJOSA	Bolivia
	Mr. HALES) Mr. PIÑERA)	Chile
	Mr. MORERA	Costa Rica
	Mr. GUAROA	Dominican Republic
	Mr. PONCE	Ecuador
	Mr. DUARTE	El Salvador
	Mr. VIAU	France
	Mr. MELGAR LARRIEU	Guatemala
	Mr. ZAMORA MILLAN	Mexico
	Mr. ZIJDERVELD	Netherlands
	Mr. CLEMENT	Panama
	Mr. MORELLI	Peru
	Mr. HENDERSON	United Kingdom
	Mr. CONOVER	United States of America
	Mr. CARLEVARO	Uruguay
	Mr. PINO	Venezuela

/ALSO PRESENT:

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Observers from Member States:	Mr. CHENDOV	Bulgaria
	Mr. VESELY	Czechoslovakia
	Mr. VICZENIK	Hungary
	Mr. MANCINI	Italy
	Mr. YOSHIMIRU	Japan
	Mr. DIMITRIU	Rumania
	Mr. ALFARO	Spain
	Mr. MIKHAILOV	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
Observer from a non-Member State:	Mr. von STOLZMANN	Federal Republic of Germany
Representatives of specialized agencies:	Mr. EZEKIEL	Food and Agriculture Organization
	Mr. CONSOLO	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
	Mr. del CANTO	International Monetary Fund

Observers from inter-governmental organizations:

Mr. BERMUDEZ	Inter-American Economic and Social Council
Mr. ROYER	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
Mr. WIAZEMSKY	Inter-Governmental Committee for European Migration

Representatives of non-governmental organizations:

Category A:

Mr. GOLDSACK	International Federation of Christian Trade Unions

/Category B

Category B and Register:

Miss ESPINOSA	International Federation of Women Lawyers
Mr. SALINAS MARIACA	World's Alliance of Young Men's Christian Associations
Mr. FRIEDLANDER	World Jewish Congress

Secretariat:

Mr. de SEYNES	Under-Secretary for Economic and Social Affairs
Mr. PREBISCH	Executive Secretary
Mr. URQUIDI	Director, Economic Commission for Latin America, Mexico Office
Mr. SANTA CRUZ	Secretary of the Commission

GENERAL DEBATE (continued)

Mr. PONCE (Ecuador) reviewed the economic situation of Ecuador during 1956 and pointed out that the fundamental obstacle to economic expansion and increased productivity in his country, as in most of the countries of Latin America, lay in the smallness and isolation of its markets. ECLA had already taken the first steps toward remedying that situation and should now proceed to take practical steps towards the creation of a common market. 1/

Mr. PINO (Venezuela) reviewed Venezuela's economic progress during 1956, pointing out that the rate of foreign investment and of agricultural, timber and cattle production had greatly increased since 1952. In spite of its high rate of progress, however, Venezuela was greatly interested in planned regional development and international co-operation. It had always supported the liberalization of trade and hoped that the present session of ECLA would result in specific proposals to that end. 2/

Mr. HENDERSON (United Kingdom) said that his Government had been impressed by ECLA's solid achievements in the past two years, and particularly welcomed the progress that had been made towards multilateralism. The United Kingdom had played

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1/ For the full text of Mr. Ponce's statement see Information Document No. 16.

2/ For the full text of Mr. Pino's statement see Information Document No. 17.

some part in the progress made by the Latin American countries, by providing credit on generous terms, and would continue to play a part in the area's economic development through private investment and technical assistance. 1/

Mr. LARRIEU (Guatemala) explained the basic economic problems facing the countries of Central America and outlined some of the measures that had been taken to promote the economic development of that region. 2/

Mr. EZEKIEL (Food and Agriculture Organization) referred to the very important part that had been played by his Organization in the agricultural development of Latin America and in related fields, and made reference to FAO's contribution to several ECLA projects, such as the Central America integration programme. Unfortunately, delegations seemed to be unaware of the useful work FAO had done.

Mr. PREBISCH (Executive Secretary) emphasized that FAO's vital contribution to the economic development of Latin America was very highly appreciated by ECLA, and that in the documentation presented to the session full credit was given to the co-operation of FAO.

Mr. GUAROA (Dominican Republic) drew the Commission's

1/ For the full text of Mr. Henderson's statement see Information Document No. 18.

2/ For the full text of Mr. Larrieu's statement see Information Document No. 19.

attention to the importance of world trade for the economy of Latin America. Fluctuations in the prices of basic commodities had far-reaching consequences for Latin American countries, and it was essential to achieve stabilization on the broadest possible basis. The elimination of blocs and the expansion of world trade would constitute a major contribution to the economic development of Latin America. In conclusion, he reviewed his country's economic achievements in 1956.1/

Mr. GOLDSACK (International Federation of Christian Trade Unions) outlined his Organization's position on the important problems of trade in basic commodities, agrarian reform, and the Latin American common market. The only solution to the problems raised by trade in basic commodities lay in the establishment of control through an international regulating agency. A true agrarian reform, which avoided the extremes of both excessive individualism and collectivism, was the essential prerequisite to agricultural development. As for the Latin American common market, its creation could only raise the standard of living of the workers and serve the cause of peace and international co-operation.2/

Mr. WIAZEMSKY (Inter-governmental Committee for European

1/ For the full text of Mr. Guarda's statement see Information Document No. 20.
2/ For the full text of Mr. Goldsack's statement see Information Document No. 21.

Migration) spoke of the valuable, even if relatively small, contribution that had been made by his Organization to the economic development of Latin America by promoting the immigration of skilled European workers. 1/

Mr. von STOLZMANN (Federal Republic of Germany) said that his Government attached great importance to ECLA's work, and recalled the traditional economic links between Germany and Latin American countries. He emphasized that the aim of the European common market was not to achieve economic isolation from any countries, but rather to promote an expansion of world trade. 2/

The meeting rose at 4.25 p.m.

1/For the full text of Mr. Wiazemsky's statement see Information Document No. 22.

2/For the full text of Mr. von Stolzmann's statement see Information Document No. 23.